

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the last paragraph on page 2 (lines 21-25) with the following amended paragraph:

It is an object of the present invention to identify a molecule to which a polyethylene glycol cholestryl ether can specifically bind in cells. Further, it is another object of the present invention to provide a novel cholesterol detection reagent comprising a substance which can specifically ~~binds~~ bind to cholesterol to detect it, and a method for detecting cholesterol using the reagent.

Please replace the second full paragraph on page 5 (10-20) with the following amended paragraph:

Examples of an affinity substance used herein may include biotin and digoxigenin. Examples of a fluorescent substance used herein may include fluorescein, FITC, BODIPY 493/503, BODIPY FL, dialkylaminocoumarin, 2',7'-dichlorofluorescein, hydroxycoumarin, methoxycoumarin, naphthofluorescein, ~~Oregon Green~~ OREGON ~~GREEN~~ 514, tetramethylrhodamine (TMR), X-rhodamine, NBD, TRITC, Texas, Cy5, Cy7, IR144, FAM, JOE, TAMRA, and ROX. Examples of a radioactive substance used herein may include ³²P, ¹³¹I, ³⁵S, ⁴⁵Ca, ³H, and ¹⁴C. Other than these substances, oxidation stress-detecting agents such as carboxy-PTIO and DTCS (Dojin), NO-generating agents such as BNN5 (Dojin), various caged amino acids, chelating agents (e.g. DTPA, EDTA, NTA, etc.), and various carboxy disulfides (having the structure of (carboxylic acid) S-S (carboxylic acid)) may also be used.